



Gold Standard[®]
for the Global Goals

FORM

FORM - DEVIATION REQUEST SUBMISSION

PUBLICATION DATE: 12/11/2024

VERSION: 6.0

NEXT PLANNED UPDATE: 12/11/2026

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- [Deviations Approval Requirements and Procedures](#)

CONTACT DETAILS

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1 | General Guidelines

1.1 | Applicability

- 1.1.1 | This form is to be completed for projects (project activities/PoAs/VPAs) seeking deviation or is/are at a risk of deviating from any [applicable requirements](#), GS4GG-specific requirements listed in the applicable [Methodologies](#) or any other deviations occurring in any of the various aspects of the project.
- 1.1.2 | Refer to the latest version of [Deviation Request Requirements and Procedures](#) for detailed information on the procedures and requirements.
- 1.1.3 | This form can be used in the following instances i.e.,
 - a. Deviation from GS4GG requirements and/or applicable methodologies prior to submission for certification with GS4GG.
 - b. Temporary changes to a certified project - which include changes from the registered monitoring plan, the applied methodologies or other standard documents - that are expected **not** to occur beyond a given monitoring period.
- 1.1.4 | For any permanent changes to a design certified project, the requirements set in [Design Change Approval Requirements and Procedures](#) shall be followed.

2 | Submission of deviation form

- 2.1.1 | This form shall be submitted in Microsoft Word (.doc) format to Gold Standard at deviations@goldstandard.org
- 2.1.2 | Forms with incomplete/inaccurate information shall not be considered for review and shall be returned to the applicant.

3 | Implementation of deviation decision

- 3.1.1 | The decision prescribed in this form shall be considered by the entity applying for deviation for further course of action.

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4| Decision summary

To be completed by Gold Standard

4.1 | General information

DEVIATION REFERENCE NUMBER	DEVRQ-190
Date of decision	04/08/2025
Decision	☒ Approved [No precondition to apply the deviation decision] ☐ Conditionally approved [Decision is subject to compliance with the precondition defined below] ☐ Not approved [reason for rejection is provided in decision summary]

4.2 | Decision

4.2.1 | Decision Summary

The deviation is approved.

4.2.2 | Directions for the project developer/CME, if applicable

The project developer shall note that:

1. Project developer shall submit the request for design certification renewal latest by the end of December 2025.
2. If the project developer faces a delay beyond December 2025 for submission of request, a new deviation request shall be sent to the secretariat.
3. The project developer may claim credits for the period of delay if the submission is made by December 2025.
4. The project developer shall document the deviation, its decision and its implications in the relevant project documentation.

4.2.3 | Directions for the Validation and Verification Body (VVB), if applicable

The VVB, using appropriate methods at their disposal, shall confirm that the project complies with the above-mentioned requirements. They shall provide their opinion in the report.

4.2.4 | Directions for the Gold Standard, if applicable

The review team shall cross-check project developer and VVB's reporting for accuracy and consistency.

4.3 | Applicability to other activities

Is this decision applicable to other projects under similar circumstances? ¹	☐ Yes ☒ No
Does this decision set a precedent for future projects with similar circumstances? ²	☐ Yes ☒ No
Precedent details (if applicable to other activities)	
NA	

5 | Deviation Request Details

To be completed by the entity requesting deviation - (Project Developer/Coordinating and Managing Entity and/or VVB)

5.1 | Submitted by

- ☐ Project developer
☐ CME
☐ VVB
☒ Other (Project developer representative)

5.2 | Details of the entity and its representative submitting the form

Item	Information
Name ³ :	Alexandre Dunod
Email ID ⁴ :	a.dunod@aera-group.fr
Organisation: ⁵	AERA Group
Are you an authorized project participant as per the cover letter submitted for this activity?	☒ Yes ☐ No

5.3 | Background information

Type	☐ Project activity	☐ PoA GSXXXX	☐ VPA
GS ID		GS 1385	
Host country(ies) Ghana			

¹ If this is marked yes, this means that any other project (PoA/VPA/PA) in similar situation may apply the decision of this deviation to their project as well. The project developer/VVB may quote this deviation decision in the relevant certification documents. This is relevant to only the projects which have already entered the certification cycle with GS4GG.

² If this is marked yes, it means the decision is valid to all the future projects which will enter the certification cycle with the similar situation. This is relevant to all the projects which are not yet design certified with GS4GG or have not submitted their documents for preliminary review yet.

³ Name of the individual representing the entity requesting the deviation

⁴ Email ID for further correspondence related to the deviation request

⁵ The name of the entity requesting the deviation

Project Title	GS1385 Man and Man Enterprise Improved Cooking Stoves Programme in Ghana											
Registry link	https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/237											
Scale	☒ Microscale (GS) ☐ Small scale ☐ Large scale ☐ Other, if applicable please specify below <i>Insert text here</i>											
Certification Status and corresponding date of latest status	☐ Listed <i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>	☒ Certified design <i>13/01/2014</i>	☐ Certified project <i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>	☐ Other <i>If other, specify here</i> <i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>								
Applied version of Standard	☒ GS4GG ☐ Previous version of Gold Standard											
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="4">Version no.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ 1.0</td> <td>☐ 1.1</td> <td>☐ 1.2</td> <td>☐ 2.2</td> </tr> </table>				Version no.				☐ 1.0	☐ 1.1	☐ 1.2	☐ 2.2
Version no.												
☐ 1.0	☐ 1.1	☐ 1.2	☐ 2.2									
Transition date, if applicable	From previous GS version to GS4GG		<i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>									
	From another standard to GS4GG		<i>dd/mm/yyyy</i>									
	Name of another standard		☐ CDM ☐ Other Name of the Standard – Insert text here									
Applicable activity requirement	☐ Renewable Energy Activity Requirements ☒ Community Services Activity Requirements ☐ Land-use and Forests Activity Requirements ☐ Other <i>Insert name here</i>											

5.4 | Project deviation history

Is there any deviation request(s) for the same project activity/PoA/VPA(s) that was submitted to GS previously? If yes, below information.			☐ Yes ☒ No
Reference number	Insert Text here		
Status of the deviation	☐ Approved	☐ Rejected	☐ Under review
Were there any findings (CL, CAR, FAR) raised during any certification step (preliminary review, design and/or performance review etc.) that are relevant to this deviation request?	☐ Yes ☐ No Summary of the findings <i>Summary of the CL, CAR, FAR not more than 200 words. Include reference to document, page number</i>		

6 | Deviation detail

To be completed by the entity requesting deviation (Project Developer/Coordinating and Managing Entity and/or VVB)

6.1 | Standard document reference

Standard document reference	Title	Principles and requirements
	Version	V2.1
	Paragraph	5.1.45; 5.1.46

6.2 | Description of the deviation

Title	Deviation request – Extension of submission deadline for PoA renewal validation report	
Confirm the nature of changes related to deviation	☒ Temporary (e.g. not expected to occur beyond one monitoring period)	☐ Permanent (e.g. deviation from requirements prior to submission for certification)
	Insert Text here (if required) to support the selection	
Relevant monitoring period, if applicable	Start date	Dd/mm/yyyy
	End date	Dd/mm/yyyy
Summarise the changes	We request a deviation to allow for the Design Certification Renewal of the PoA GS1385 to be submitted after the official expiry date of the current crediting period, which ends on 01 September 2025, while still preserving the continuity of the programme and its eligibility under Gold Standard for the Global Goals. This request includes: • A temporary extension of the deadline to submit the VVB revalidation opinion and supporting documentation beyond 01/09/2025. • A proposal to perform the renewal process during Q4 2025, with full compliance to GS4GG requirements. • Justification that the delayed submission is due to the fact that both the VVB and the GS approved a 7y CP although a transition requirement clarification had come up unnoticed after the initiation of the renewal (detailed below) Refer to latest version of Deviation Request Requirements and Procedures for requirements and guidelines	
Reason for deviation	The reason for this deviation request is twofold: 1. Administrative error: At the time of the previous renewal in 2020, both the VVB and Gold Standard reviewers validated a second 7-year crediting period (until 2027), which was later corrected/clarified by Gold Standard upon request made by the project developer in June 2025. This created confusion and a misalignment between the registry information and the transition requirements.	

	2. Operational constraints: Given the short timeline now confirmed, it is not feasible to complete a revalidation by 01/09/2025, as this would require: ○ A full revalidation audit by a contracted VVB, ○ The inclusion of a Real Case VPA based on the new TPDDTEC methodology (since AMS-II.G is no longer eligible for new VPAs), hence the execution of KPTs, which require significant preparation and field data collection, ○ The organization of local stakeholder consultation both at Poa and VPA level, ○ And full documentation and submission of the renewal package. These requirements cannot be realistically completed before the current crediting period expires.						
Proposed resolution	We request that Gold Standard grants an extension to submit the PoA Design Certification Renewal by 31 December 2025, while maintaining the continuity of the certification cycle, such that: • The start date of the new certification period remains 02 September 2025, with no interruption or gap; • The revalidation process and documentation (including Real Case VPA under TPDDTEC and stakeholder consultation) will be completed within Q4 2025; • We fully acknowledge clause 5.1.45, which allows the review to complete after the current certification period, as long as submission of the VVB revalidation opinion occurs before the end of the current CP; • We therefore request that impact statements and crediting remain valid from 02 September 2025 onward, even if final review is completed after that date.						
Is there any potential temporary or permanent impact of deviation on other aspects of the project?	Select the relevant area: ☐ Project design ☐ Local stakeholder consultation ☐ Safeguarding principles ☐ SDG assessment ☐ Regulatory compliance ☐ Additionality ☐ Applicability of methodology ☐ Annual emission reduction volume <i>(if yes, fill the table below)</i> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation</th><th>Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>XYZ tCO₂e</td><td>XYZ tCO₂e</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table> ☐ any other matrix, please specify...	Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation	Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation	XYZ tCO ₂ e	XYZ tCO ₂ e		
Annual emission reduction/removal before applying deviation	Annual emission reduction/removal after applying deviation						
XYZ tCO ₂ e	XYZ tCO ₂ e						
Summary of the impact	This deviation would not impact the actual crediting start date, and ensures the project maintains environmental integrity. All monitoring						

	and data collection during the interim period (Sept-Dec 2025) will be compliant with the applicable methodology and fully auditable once the revalidation is finalized.
Insert text here	

6.3 | VVB information

Is a VVB opinion on the deviation request required? <i>VVB opinion shall be included, where required by the requirements under Deviations Request Requirements and Procedures or request is submitted by the VVB.</i>	Yes ☐ No ☐ <i>If answer is yes, fill the information in section 6.4 below.</i>
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6.4 | VVB's assessment

The below information is to be completed by VVB, if applicable.

VVB's assessment of deviation request	Please confirm the nature of deviation.	
VVB's assessment of impact of deviation request		
VVB recommendation		
VVB details	VVB name:	
	Auditor name(s):	
	Email (s):	

6.5 | Documents:

6.5.1 | List of documents provided (*note that once a decision has been made by Gold Standard, this deviation form will be made public on the Gold Standard website. Kindly refrain from including any confidential information in the form.*)

Document 1.

Document 2.

Document n.

DOCUMENT HISTORY

VERSION NUMBER	RELEASE DATE	DESCRIPTION
6.0	12.11.2024	Editorial and structural changes to the template
5.0	11.04.2022	Additional information added: - date of listing, design certification, transition - standard version - specific reference to a requirement deviated from - any previous deviations/design changes approved - Guidance on VVB opinion
4.0	14.01.2021	Editorial changes
3.0	16.07.2020	Editorial changes
2.0	03.05.2018	Editorial changes
1.0	01.07.2017	Initial adoption